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Senators present calling cards donated to military by DTE Energy and Verizon

Lansing — Michigan National Guard and Army Reserve family members now have an easier and cheaper way of staying in touch, thanks to efforts by local legislators and two Michigan businesses, state Sen. Valde Garcia (R-Howell) announced today.

In a special ceremony today at the Capitol, members of the Michigan legislature presented 3,000 phone cards to the Michigan National Guard and Army Reserve. DTE Energy and Verizon donated the phone cards, usable for 60 minutes of domestic long distance.

“Our soldiers are working daily to defend our freedom and protect our liberties,” Garcia said. “This small token of appreciation should help our soldiers and their families stay in touch, especially as we approach the holidays.”

Master Sgt. Les Koren from the National Guard, Vicki Thompson and Shirley McGaughy accepted the cards. Thompson’s husband, David, is a specialist with the 119th Field Artillery and is set to deploy in December. McGaughy’s son, Keith Stewart, is a specialist with the 54th Engineer Battalion currently stationed in Kuwait.

Presenting the phone cards were Sens. Garcia, Bruce Patterson (R-Canton), Laura Toy (R-Livonia), and Rep. Phil LaJoy (R-Canton), along with Nancy Moody, director of state government affairs for DTE Energy, and Paul Fuglie, assistant vice president of external affairs for Verizon.

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